

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA

IN THE MATTER OF)	
COURT COMMISSIONER)	ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
EVALUATIONS)	NO. 94-014
_____)	AMENDED

Court Commissioners, Judges and Court Administration, after working on and reviewing a commissioner evaluation program comparable to the Judicial Performance Review Program, and having presented a Commissioner Performance and Improvement Program for consideration, it is

ORDERED approving the attached COMMISSIONER PERFORMANCE EVALUATION AND IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.

ORDERED that the Conference Team Report and the Self-Evaluation Form, completed by each Court Commissioner, shall be confidential personnel matters. The Court Commissioner shall retain the original Self-Evaluation Form and the Presiding Judge shall retain a copy of each Self-Evaluation Form completed by each Commissioner. The Self-Evaluation Form is not to be released to anyone other than the Court Commissioner except as future circumstances, presently unknown and about which there is no present speculation, may require to comply with law. Conference review teams shall be provided a copy of the Court Commissioner Self-Evaluation Form for each Court Commissioner subject to conference with that conference team, but all copies of each Court Commissioner Self-Evaluation Form provided each conference team member shall be returned to Court Administration and destroyed following the conference between the conference team and the Court Commissioner. The original Conference Team Report shall be retained by the Presiding Judge, a copy shall be retained by the Court Commissioner, and all other copies shall be destroyed by Court Administration.

ORDERED that the Presiding Judge may provide copies of the Self-Evaluation, the Conference Team Report and the Self-Improvement Plan to the Presiding Juvenile Judge, a departmental Presiding Judge or the Associate Presiding Judge for purposes of Court Administration under circumstances where

the Commissioner

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will be transferred to, or be supervised by, someone other than the Presiding Judge. In addition, the Self-Improvement Plan, with the name of the Commissioner redacted, may be distributed to Court Administration staff or the Administrative Office of the Court for use in development of judicial education programs.

DATED this 22nd day of February, 1994.

AMENDED this 18th day of April, 1995

C. Kimball Rose, Presiding Judge

Original: Clerk of the Superior Court

COMMISSIONER PERFORMANCE EVALUATION AND IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The purpose of Court Commissioners is to provide assistance to retained Superior Court Judges and the Superior Court in meeting the Court Institution's responsibility of providing reasonable access to the courts and providing due process thereafter.

The purpose of a Commissioner Evaluation Program is to provide the evaluation and the self improvement which will assure a competent and responsive commissioner bench. It will aid in determining areas of emphasis for commissioner continuing legal education. It will be of assistance in making assignment decisions by the Presiding Judge. It will provide powerful insight to the Commissioner on how the Commissioner is perceived by the members of the legal community and public.

Beginning in April, 1994, and for four full weeks afterward, all Commissioners shall have an appropriate evaluation form distributed to those persons appearing in their court or chambers. The completed forms are to be deposited in a box provided at the chambers or they may be mailed to the Court Administrative offices.

Court Administration will arrange for the collection and compilation of the evaluation forms for each commissioner by type of form. Any comments will be separated from the form and provided to the commissioner in anonymous fashion.

The commissioner will complete a commissioner self-evaluation form. This form is confidential. Steps, including an administrative order, will be taken to assure their confidentiality.

After the form evaluations have been compiled and the self-evaluation completed, a conference team comprised of the presiding departmental judge, one other person (who may be a judge, lawyer, or lay person), and a lawyer, will meet with the commissioner to discuss the survey results and improvement goals.

The evaluation will be repeated every two years subject to budgetary and support staff considerations.

The results of the survey evaluation results, anonymous comments, results of the conference team meetings, a copy of the commissioner self-evaluation, and the self-improvement plans will be provided to the Presiding Judge. The survey evaluation results and anonymous comments will be available to the public upon request. The remaining items are considered to be personnel matters and confidential per administrative

order of the presiding judge.